

right, now upon the left, and now suddenly in the center. He held his ground unaided till 6 o'clock. His ranks were terribly thinned, and he was compelled to bring up McClellan once more. His division had been in nearly all the fights. It was worn out. But with hearts as true as steel they responded to the order. Simultaneously upon their advance came fresh troops from Richmond, and loud and terrific as at any time during the six days' fighting, the contest. But the masses of the enemy rolled along the road. Their leaders had no care for saving life. This was war—a strife for mastery. It was their determination to win, no matter what it cost. They rushed on impetuously, charged upon our batteries, captured Randall's and took a large number of prisoners. Here the brave and efficient commander of the corps, General McClellan, went down at the head of his troops, supposed to be badly wounded. A score of officers fell. The lines gave way. It was a critical moment. Now or never was the battle to be won. Now or never was the army to be saved. All hearts felt it. All hands were ready. Men lived again in those moments. O you who live far away among peaceful valleys on sunny hill-sides, with smiling children at your feet, reading this tame account, cannot know the thrill which brave men feel when the heart wells up from its inmost depths to dare all, to do all that God has given to save defeat. Untold men look with clearest vision in such moments down the future ages. They see, they feel that untold millions are beckoning them to do their duty now! They are great moments!

Sedgwick came. Hooker and Kearney came—Hooker with the 2d New Hampshire and 1st and 11th Massachusetts; Kearney with the life blood of New Jersey—brave men all of them. They rallied for a desperate charge—one which has determination in it, when every man feels that he stands at the gateway of centuries, as Leonidas stood at Thermopylae. Twenty-four cannon additional were brought. The united divisions, firm and unyielding as the granite of their native mountains, moved to the charge—onward, right onward, unyielding death or life! They came upon the enemy like a thunder-bolt, bore down the living masses in front as if they were automata, sent them flying over the field, and captured twelve pieces of artillery, one brigade, including three regiments; also Col Pendleton of the Louisiana battalion, and ex-Congressman Lamar of the 1st Georgia regiment.

It was the final. The enemy was defeated at last. He had come on with high hopes; he retired discomfited. It was a brilliant victory. It inspired our troops—here let me speak of the influence of music. While the fight was going on, Gen. Morell ordered the bands to play. For a month they have been silent, under orders. They gave Yankee Doodle, the Star Spangled Banner, and Hail Columbia. It was like bread to a hungry man. The troops felt the soul-stirring strains, and forgot that they were tired, hungry, exhausted, and ready to faint.

THE GUNBOATS.
The rebels had thrown a body of men close down upon the river. The gunboats, when the fight began, moved up and opened with ten-inch shells upon the rebel line. It was a timely assistance, otherwise the rebels could have driven along the bank, flanked the Union line, and reached its rear. What narrow margins there have been in this war. I enumerated some of them in a former letter. This may be added to the list.

It closed the fighting. On Tuesday the pickets of the enemy hovered around, but not in force.

PREPARATION OF THE REBELS FOR THE ATTACK.

A correspondent of the New York Tribune speaks of the great preparation made by Jeff Davis for the onslaught on our army. He says:—

"On Saturday at the Seven Pines, and on Sunday at Fair Oaks, the rebels were so crushed by our fighting that the purpose to drown us in the Chickahominy was abandoned, and the intrenchments before Richmond were speedily sought as a refuge. Jeff Davis had no sooner reached the city than he telegraphed to Gen Sibley in Charleston to bring up instantly every soldier in that state who could be spared. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon that officer left in a train for Richmond with two regiments. Telegraphic calls for troops went at the same time from President Davis to every Southern State. A prisoner taken by us yesterday told me that 'since a week ago Wednesday' new regiments came into Richmond rapidly, many from Georgia, some from Mississippi, and more from North Carolina, notwithstanding her much-voiced-for Unionism."

The correspondent of the same paper further states the advantages of the recent movements, as follows:—

"That Gen McClellan's army is very considerably outnumbered is very certain. The movement of changing front in the face of a superior force has been executed with great skill, though it is not probable that the sanguinary contingencies which attended it were contemplated. It doubtless proved the safety of his entire force, for, with his flank turned, it is scarcely probable that he could have sustained himself against the superior force hurled against him. In his present position he cannot be flanked, but has very many advantages which his former one did not afford. Indeed, it had very few advantages, but many disadvantages—to say nothing of its unlikelihood."

The military men see in what has been accomplished the elements of victory. The necessities compelling this change of front cannot be told, nor would they be appreciated were they to be told. The army has escaped from its greatest enemy, the strongest defender of Richmond—the swamps of the Chickahominy.

A new campaign opens. The enemy has a foe more terrible than the army of the Potomac or any other—a defective Subsistence Department. In this respect it has gained nothing at the White House, or in the occupation of our former lines. Reinforcements but increase the burdens in this respect.

On the contrary, the army is now in a position to receive the powerful support of the Navy—the terror of the rebels everywhere. There is no reason for depression over the events of the last four days. The army is less the object of solicitude than before the recent movement towards the James river."

A Battle July Fourth.

A skirmish took place Friday morning near our left wing, resulting in a defeat of the rebels. We took 1000 prisoners, and three small batteries. Our cavalry then followed the rebels till they passed beyond White Oak Swamp. For the last two days the rebels have shown little disposition to fight, and on Friday relinquished their grounds and batteries almost without resistance.

A letter to the New York Evening Post confirms the reported skirmish on Thursday, and capture of six guns and some prisoners. Gen McClellan had removed his headquarters, and the federal army had advanced five miles toward Richmond.

The correspondent of the Philadelphia Press reports McClellan as pushing rapidly forward, driving the enemy at all points.—Gunboats which accompany his advance are shelling the woods and scattering the enemy, his main forces followed in support.

A REBEL LOSS OF THIRTY THOUSAND ADMITTED.

Richmond papers of the 4th acknowledge a loss of 30,000 men, though they claim a victory.

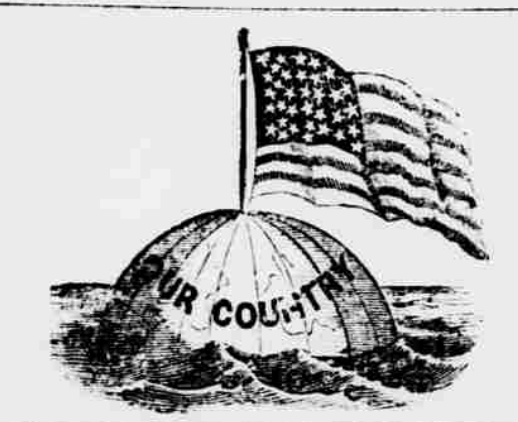
An officer of high rank from Gen McClellan's army, who has just visited Washington, gives the most encouraging account of affairs which has yet been received there. He states that our army is much larger than is currently reported in view of the late losses, and is in a perfectly secure position either for offensive or defensive movements, and this without the aid of the gunboats even.

(Further war news on seventh column.)

THE CALEDONIAN.

BY C. M. STONE & CO.

St. Johnsbury, Friday, July 11, 1862.



A week has given us time to post up and see where we stand in regard to our army on the Peninsula. Although it has not entered Richmond (a circumstance which we all greatly regret) it is now in a much better condition than the reports of one week ago would lead us to apprehend. Gen McClellan's address to his soldiers on the 4th of July states the case as concisely as it can be given. It seems that the rebels, being greatly reinforced, made a desperate and determined attempt to drive the Union army from the Peninsula. By their overwhelming numbers they were enabled to bring fresh troops continually to bear upon our lines, and this they did after day for six successive days. They were driven in every engagement, until apparently dispirited and convinced that they could not break or drive the Union lines, they ceased to attack. Notwithstanding our great losses, our troops are in good spirits, and have already recommenced their advance upon Richmond. Late news mentions that Gen Burnside's entire army is in motion to co-operate with Gen McClellan in the advance. Very likely Fort Darling will be cleaned out by a land force, so that we shall soon see our army marching on to the rebel capital, escorted by those valuable auxiliaries, the gunboats in James river. If Gen McClellan is reinforced in season, Richmond will surely fall.

The great Battles before Richmond.

We try to give this week, beginning upon the first page, a connected account of the battles before Richmond on the last three days of June and the first four of July. It is a terrible record, such an one as we hope never again to be obliged to chronicle. We do not mean by this that our noble army was defeated in its encounters with the rebels; the James and Chickahominy rivers, yet our brave soldiers did not achieve the success we so ardently wished, or which a reserve force of 50,000 good soldiers would have so gloriously given them. Still, as Gen McClellan says in his 4th of July address, they "have in every conflict beaten back their foes with enormous slaughter."

The news from the Peninsula, when we went to press last week, only gave accounts of fighting up to Saturday. It now appears that fighting was continued on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday; and that the greatest slaughter of the week was on Monday. Still later accounts give a severe engagement on the fourth of July, in which the rebels were driven with great loss, the federal troops taking many prisoners and several field batteries. Thus it will be seen that our army has kept up a continuous fight every day for a week, and after resting two days renews the conflict with great vigor. The events of these days must impress every one who reads the accounts with the daring bravery and fortitude of the army of the Potomac. No one will hereafter talk about Gen McClellan's holiday soldiers, and the fighting qualities of the western troops, intending thereby a slur upon our eastern army. As their gallant young commander aptly said, each one with pride may hereafter say, "I belonged to the army of the Potomac."

The rebels fought like demons. They were conscious of their great superiority of numbers, and they seemed determined to make an end of this war by destroying the Union army which they almost had within their grasp. They were reckless of life; they charged right up to the cannon's mouth with a daring which would have been most noble in a better cause. They failed; not perhaps through bad generalship, and certainly not for want of courage to attack us at all times and at every attackable point, but failed merely because of the enduring pluck of the Union soldiers—they would not be beaten, they could die but they would never. All honor to the brave defenders of our liberties and the Union!

Of the losses in this week of successive battles, all is conjecture as yet. Some estimate the federal loss at from twelve to fifteen thousand in killed, wounded and missing, while Gen Marcy of Gen McClellan's staff puts our entire loss at 30,000, which we ardently hope is twice too high. The rebel papers acknowledge a loss of 30,000, and some rebel prisoners set it as high as 75,000, which is probably altogether too high. At all events the slaughter was terrific on both sides, though it is generally conceded that the superiority of artillery in the federal army made a great difference in the losses sustained, and told fearfully upon the dense masses of rebels.

There was a terrible havoc made with the officers of our army, who seemed everywhere to lead their men and take the most exposed positions. So many were wounded and fell into the hands of the rebels, or were separated from their commands and taken prisoners, that just what loss in officers we have sustained cannot now be known. It is reported that Gen McClellan is wounded and a prisoner. It was reported also and confirmed that the rebel Gens "Stonewall" Jackson and Barnwell Rhett were killed and Gen Magruder taken prisoner. This has since been contradicted, but only upon the authority of rebel prisoners. We believe the Richmond papers announced Jackson's death.

The saddest part of this series of battles is the precious lives that have been lost, and the large number of our wounded that have fallen into the hands of the enemy. It is a terrible story of suffering and slaughter, and will, if it has not already, carry the keenest anguish into thousands of families scattered throughout the North. The light of many a home went out in and about the great white oak swamp of Virginia in the last few days of June. Let the afflicted be sought out, and the sympathizing tear shed with those who have given their all that we might enjoy the blessings of a free and loyal republic.

Gen McClellan's Address to his Army.

The address of Gen McClellan to his soldiers on the 4th of July, which will be found in another column, has in it the ring of the true metal. As long as our commander is hopeful and undaunted, how can the soldiers and the people be otherwise? He expresses unbounded confidence in his army and great love for the cause in which they are engaged. Without a single word of censure for those who have held back reinforcements and cheated him out of a great victory, he puts on the best face and declares to them that "your government is strengthening you with the resources of a great people." "You have saved all your material"—"you have in every conflict beaten back your foes with enormous slaughter"—"you have reached your new base unimpaired in spirit."—"I have personally established your lines—let the enemy come, and we will convert their repulse into a final defeat." And then the stirring appeal made in the last paragraph:

"On this our nation's birthday, we declare to our foes who are rebels against the best interest of mankind, that this army shall enter the capital of the so-called confederacy; that our National Constitution shall prevail, and that the Union, which alone can insure internal peace and external security to each state, must and shall be preserved, cost what it may in time, treasure and blood."

Push on the reinforcements and strike the fatal blow.

The New Call for Troops.

We publish elsewhere the official call for another (the Tenth) regiment. The conditions, pay, bounty, etc., are made very explicit and so plain that every one can understand the whole matter. We have reached the crisis in this rebellion. It must be put down now or never. By conscription the rebels have raised an immense army; this army has already been cut to pieces and is now well nigh demoralized by the terrible engagements of the past two weeks. A hundred thousand more good soldiers to-day would make success sure; and Gen McClellan would march right into the rebel capital. Delays are dangerous; foreign intervention is already threatened, and if the federal army delays to enter Richmond many weeks longer, it may reasonably be expected. Push on the recruits, and end the war by a vigorous, well directed blow.

PERSONAL.—Charles Carleton Coffin, better known as "Carleton," the war correspondent of the Boston Journal, was on a visit to Littleton last week, where, on solicitation of the citizens, he met them in a public hall and gave a graphic account of the battle of Fort Donelson and the naval engagement at Memphis. The Journal says that his description of the latter battle was extremely graphic and electrifying, and the fact of his being present and an eye witness of the whole terrific scene, added much to the interest of his narration. He has now gone to join McClellan's army, and the Journal readers have already heard from him again.

The President ordered the unconditional release of C. C. Fulton, editor of the Baltimore American, who was imprisoned for telegraphing from White House some news respecting the battles before Richmond.

ONLY ONE INSTANCE.—The New Jersey 4th regiment, according to the statement of one of its officers, went into the battle of White Oak Swamp on Monday with 640 men and came out with 81. Six captains were killed within an hour after the fight commenced.

WHAT A VERMONT BOY DID.—Young Morrill, a drummer of the Indiana 13th, to-day killed a rebel officer in company with another on the Gordonsville road to Richmond, and captured both their horses and accoutrements, among which was a fine field glass, a fine silver-mounted rifle, and a fine pair of silver-plated spurs, all of which are now in camp.—War Correspondence of the Indiana State Journal.

The lad above alluded to is a son of Dr. Lewis Morrill, and was born at Newport State. His mother was Lucy, daughter of Alvin Flint, formerly of this town. The boy is not yet 17 years old.

Gen McClellan's Address to his Soldiers.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Camp near Harrison's Landing, July 4, 1862.

Soldiers of the Army of the Potomac:—

Your achievements of the last ten days have illuminated the valor and endurance of the American soldier. Attacked by superior forces, and without the hope of reinforcements, you have succeeded in changing your base of operations by a flank movement—always regarded as the most hazardous of military expedients.

You have saved all your material, all your trains and all your guns, except a few lost in battle, taking in return guns and colors from the enemy.

Upon your march you have been assailed day after day with desperate fury by men of the same race and nation, skillfully massed and led. Under every disadvantage of number and necessarily of position also, you have in every conflict beaten back your foes with enormous slaughter.

Your conduct places you among the celebrated armies of history. No one will now question that each of you may always with pride say, "I belonged to the Army of the Potomac." You have reached the new base complete in organization and unimpaired in spirit. The enemy may at any time attack you—we are prepared to meet them. I have personally established your lines; let them come and we will convert their repulse into a final defeat.

Your government is strengthening you with the resources of a great people. On this our nation's birthday, we declare to our foes who are rebels against the best interest of mankind, that this army shall enter the capital of the so-called confederacy; that our National Constitution shall prevail and that the Union, which alone can ensure internal peace and external security to each

state, must and shall be preserved, cost what it may in time, treasure and blood. (Signed) GEORGE B. McCLELLAN.

Sick and Wounded in the Vermont Brigade.

From various sources we compile the following list; it may be and probably is very far from accurate, but it is as near correct as can be made at this time. Many of these are in the hospitals at Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, etc., and were there at the time of the late battles, being on the sick list, or wounded in some previous engagements. It may relieve some who have thought their friends dead, whose names appear in this list. It is very imperfect, and most likely the number would be considerably increased did we have all the names of the sick and wounded in the late battles.

Brig Gen Brooks, wounded.

SECOND REGIMENT.

Quartermaster Stone, slightly.

D F Bacon, E, rheumatism.

G Williams, B, arm.

J E Clark, D, hand.

J E Clough, D.

William Chelsea, G, foot.

L A Sney, K, sick.

W S Heather, leg.

J C Leyght, injured.

G W Rowell, E, hip.

Jackson Tunbury, B.

Edward Casey, K.

W H Allen, F.

T Train, G.

C J Herring, foot.

T Bumbard, heart disease.

Jona Chase, H.

H Harris, H.

W Houghton, C.

W King, D.

Henry Mosker, H.

John Mooreau, H.

John Paca, K.

Corporal T D Goldthwait, E.

P H Howe, C.

Terrence Roddy, D.

Quincy F Thurston, D.

John Kelley, K.

Daniel McKill, K.

S Blake, H.

Gustave Roid, B.

P Merher, hand.

THIRD REGIMENT.

Col B N Hyde, bilious fever.

Quartermaster J S Seaver, fever.

Sergeant-major E Mattocks, wounded.

J Clark, A, shoulder.

C L Stevens, D, typhoid.

J P Hart, H, sick.

William Hinman, thigh.

J H Rich, L, sick.

A Jones, G, sick.

O A Pierce, K, sick.

W S Santy, B, sick.

C R J Killand, sick.

J S Langmaid, hip.

H P Hatch, sick.

A L Bartholomew, arm.

N Kingsbury, hip.

M A Paddock, hand.

G C Coal, arm.

W H Scott, E.

C P Bean, B.

George Luncheon, K.

W H Grey, D.

William Curry, D.

A Currier, D.

K S Goodall, D.

L A Ball, A.

Joseph Hindman, L.

Charles Motley, D.

Edward Ney, B.

Harry Moody, K.

W Doley, E.

C A Bixby, A.

Michael Foley, G, on furlough.

H B Jerome, B.

J M King, A.

A J Kimball, A.

George Persons, D.

M Torrence, B.

Sergeant W H Stimpson, wounded.

H H Scott, D.

Jacob Farr, fever.

H L Collins, fever.

FOURTH REGIMENT.

Col E H Stoughton, slightly.

Surgeon Allen, chronic diarrhoea.

S H Davis, C, hand.

J A Currier, C, sick.

R W Fowle, E, hip.

G S Flanders, C.

J Ladd, A, leg.

S Lillie, A, sick.

G P Spalding, C, sick.

O Carle, sick.

J E Guild, hand.

H H Merrill, G.

Eli Perry, C.

Alfred Barkam, E.

H Dow, G.

A K Gould, K.

G A Ackley, C.

John Brown, D.

J A Gove, F.

C O Haley, C.

I M Humphre, H.

Pat L Howe, E.

E G Miller, I.

George Marsh, F.

William Mathews, I.

Henry Perry, F.

C D Stevens, F.

D W Stever, G.

Charles Slate, F.

Moses Spencer, D.

Benj F Wood, E.

E B Weeks, H.

J W Keyes, sick.

S F Davis, E.

J W Keyes, F.

Henry G Fillebrown, C.

G E Marsdale, K.

F Stockwell.

John Wheeler, foot.

FIFTH REGIMENT.

Capt C W Rose, C, wounded.

Lieut Wright, dangerously wounded.

Capt R C Menton, D, wounded.

Lt W H H Peck, E, dangerously wounded.

Capt Segar, H, wounded.

Capt Duxley, E, sick.

Lieut Barber, K, wounded.

Lieut C C Spaulding, D.

F Hill, C, thigh.

C H Jackson, B, head.

J E Henry, I, elbow.

G E Benson, E, leg.

Anthony Jacobs, H, hand.

M E Fisher, C, arm and ear.

S A Martin, G, groin.

Samuel Norcross, E, knee.

T D Hammond, I, leg.

Wm Daniels, B, fever.

L T Dutton, H, shoulder, foot and hand.

E Wheeler, G, hand.

F Hill, thigh.

H C Myers, F, shoulder.

T Holly, I, sick.

M E Parker, C, sick.

P Mickey, C, sick.

Edgar Bullard, thigh.

Thomas Maynard, sick.

Napoleon Bush, elbow.

J M Burder, arm.

H S Peer, hip.

H Devoild, D.

W Backler, H.

T D Abbott, D.

A Wilkins, D.

Alfred Homed, F.

A L Jones, A.

L Manly, A.

J W Perkins, H.

William Vure, A.

Henry Wright, K.

A E Delous, B.

Eben Brown, K.

F W Conroe, C.

Eben Dyke, D.

T Finney, H.

C A Ford, H.

F James, K.

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